



GLOBAL ECOLOGY
RESTORATION FOUNDATION



**ANNUAL REPORT
2022-2023.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at Global Ecology Restoration Foundation Management would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to our Board of Directors for their unwavering guidance, directives, and dedication in providing oversight to our management team. The extensive knowledge and insights of these steadfast and professional Board Members have benefited our organization immensely.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to international organizations and companies, the like-minded organizations for the collaboration and networks that have supported us in achieving our vision and mission in 2022-2023.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to government ministries and institutions, particularly the Ministry of Environment, NEMC, Community Development, Gender, Children, and Elderly, Ministry of the President Office Regional Administration, Ministry of Livestock's and Fisheries, TFS, TAWA and Local Government Office.

We want to express our appreciation to our management team and all staff for their firm commitment, drive, and zeal throughout the year. We also want to thank our esteemed stakeholders, the community, other organizations, and the government for their unwavering support throughout 2023.

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on 2023, GERF is proud of its continued efforts in implementing projects aimed at promoting community development by protecting, conserving, managing and restoring ecosystem. despite challenges in securing project funding. Our commitment to our strategic pillars and to staying relevant to our community remains strong. We are grateful to our like-minded organizations, institutions, and GERF staffs for their unwavering support.

Over 2 years, we have successfully accomplished our organization's mission and vision, and we remain committed to making a positive impact on our community.

In 2023, we successfully implemented several activities and consultation work, including the Mangrove Restoration at Mdimini Village join forces with HUDEFO organization, Provision of a Clean Water Tank and Fruit Tree Planting at Mkenge Primary School, Baseline Survey in Villages Adjacent to Wami Mbiki Game Reserve, Establishment of a Farm Tree Station and 3 Nurseries in Mwidu Village, Marine Conservation Awareness and Campaigns and Field Assessment of Mangrove Destruction in Tundwi Songani and consultation work from coral guardian, shell company and rainforest connect (RFCX).

Despite the challenges encountered along the way, GERF managed to maintain the development of different activities, and we are grateful to our partners, Board, and staff for their helpful contributions. You are our most valuable resources, and without your support, GERF would not have achieved its accomplishments. We thank you and look forward to your continued support as we strive towards achieving our goals.

Sincerely,



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Chris Mahundi
Executive Director
Global Ecology Restoration Foundation

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1.0 ABOUT GERF

Global Ecology Restoration Foundation – GERF is non-governmental organization registered in Tanzania with primary focus in protecting, conserving, managing and restoring ecosystem. Founded in 2021 as community outreach program before officially registered in 13th September, 2022 with certificate No 00NGO/R/3780, our main office is at Makumbusho, Dar es Salaam. GERF is highly dedicated to conserve lands and water which all life depends. We are guided by scientific strategies and disciplines in our works, we create and apply innovative ground solutions to our national's toughest challenges so that nature and people can thrive together. We participate on tackling climate change challenges, conserve wild animals, forest, land restorations, fresh waters, and oceans at unprecedented scale, to provide best integrated ecosystem.

1.1 Vision

To encourage the science, practice and policy of ecology restoration to sustain biodiversity, improve resilience in climate change, Re- establish an ecologically health ecosystem between nature and culture.

1.2 Mission

To provide people with the opportunity of repairing ecological damage also improving the human condition. Ecological restoration becomes a fundamental component of conservation and sustainable development programs throughout the world by virtue of its inherent capacity.

1.3 Objectives

- To simplify and conjoin the global; conservation, restoration and education program.
- To engage community on conservation, restoration, protection, education on ecological activities for habitual change and practical.

1.4 GERF thematic areas

1.4.1 Wildlife

We provide solutions for human-wildlife conflicts by adhering to principles of sustainable conservations that ensure the wellbeing of wildlife and local communities around protected areas in Tanzania. Our work helps to stop poaching, illegal hunting, snares and illegal timber works in protected areas. We develop community outreach programs to raise awareness and sensitization towards friendly existences practices with wild-animals. These direct engagements include community capacity building and trainings on wildlife conservation and benefits to the communities

1.4.2 Forest

Focus on natural and artificial forest conservation and protection. We support forest and water source conservations by encouraging local communities' engagement in forest conservations and protections practices. We advocate environmental awareness and campaigns that help to encourage wise use forest resources and create solutions to uplift the wellbeing of forest resources and water sources and catchments. We advocate and support rural communities in commercial tree planting and agro forest practices. Our solutions comprise forest rehabilitations, water catchment areas conservation promotion of land restoration and community tree planting campaigns.

1.4.3 Ocean

GERF work to protect our ocean from pollution and illegal exploitation and campaign for ocean safety and health by raising voice on proper waste management to prevent ocean pollutions especially plastics waste, illegal fishing. We work with local communities to restore mangroves and other marine forest species that support the health marine ecosystem and ecology by providing awareness and capacity building on laws and policies of sustainable ocean use to support local and global marine conservation. We support and encourage the development of blue economy strategies as part of ocean and marine conservation efforts to uplift the life of coastal communities and maintain health ecosystem.

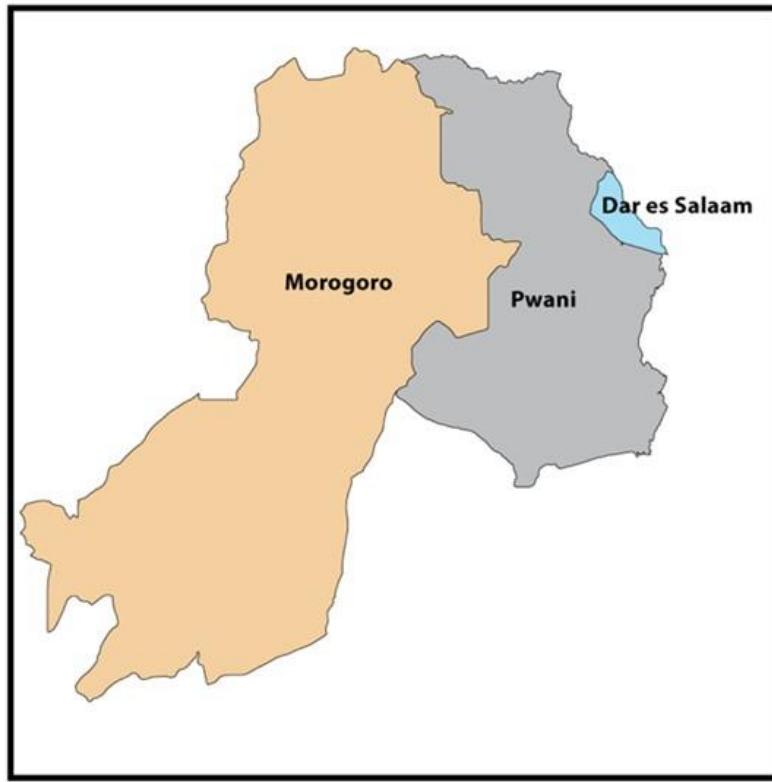
1.4.4 Water

GERF work to protect, conserve and support the wise use of water resources and infrastructure. Our areas of concentration include water source conservation, rehabilitation and protections in Tanzania. We provide solutions and alternative ways to local communities nearby forest and rivers to discourage destruction and water pollutions. We strongly engage to tackle the causes and impacts of climate change that contribute to water scarcity in both rural and urban areas. We help local communities to understand and practices the wise use of water resources.

1.4.5 Energy

We support clean and renewable energy solutions in both rural and urban areas. We equip the communities with different forms of alternative energy solutions include solar energy, biogas, wind energy and improved cook stoves. In clean cooking energy GERE provides training on constructions of improved cook stoves especially in rural areas that are affordable and clean. The imposed stoves support rural communities' livelihood with clean solutions that reduce pressure on natural forest and trees for wood and charcoal. Our Solutions are healthy, environmentally, socially and economically viable.

MAP SHOWING AREAS WE HAVE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES



LOCATION

DAR ES SALAAM REGION

KINONDONI - Coco beach
Ocean road beach
Mbudya Island

KIGAMBONI -

Sinda Island
Rongoni beach
Tundwi Songani

PWANI REGION

Mkuranga- Mdimini
Chalinze- Ubena - Zomozi - Mwidu
Bagamoyo - Fukayose- Mkenge Village

MOROGORO REGION

Mvomero DC
Morogoro DC- Mvuuha

2.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN 2022/2023

In 2022 to 2023, GERF does not conduct any project that was funded by donor/s, despite of the absence of donor funds, GERF carried out different activities and events on collaboration with likeminded organizations, government, institutions and international agencies. Activities that were carried out are: -

2.0.1 Mangrove Restoration at Mdimini Village join forces with HUDEF0 organization.

GERF and HUDEF0 implemented a participatory approach to restoring 3000 mangroves in 8 acres at Mdimini Village, situated within the Mkuranga District Council. The project actively engaged the local community in mangrove restoration practices. Additionally, GEF conducted awareness campaigns and provided bee hives to incentivize mangrove conservation. The

Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) facilitated training sessions for the community on bee hive management.

2.0.2 Provision of a Clean Water Tank and Fruit Tree Planting at Mkenge Primary School.

GERF installed a 2000-liter clean water tank at Mkenge Primary School, benefiting over 300 students. The initiative aimed to promote student hygiene and ensure access to clean drinking water. Furthermore, GFERF organized regular sessions on environmental awareness, emphasizing the importance of tree planting to enhance climate change resilience.

2.0.3 Baseline Survey in Villages Adjacent to Wami Mbiki Game Reserve.

GERF conducted a comprehensive baseline survey in villages neighboring the Wami Mbiki Game Reserve, which serves as an elephant corridor connecting Selous/Nyerere National Parks. The survey aimed to gather information on deforestation levels, causes of human-elephant conflict, and human activities contributing to environmental degradation. Data collection methods included observation, questionnaires, focus group discussions, and interviews.

2.0.4 Establishment of a Farm Tree Station and 3 Nurseries in Mwidu Village.

GERF acquired 21 acres land for the establishment of a farm tree station and nurseries for native species, fruit trees and non-native species in Mwidu Village at Ubena Zomozi Ward. This station showcases a diverse range of tree species. Currently, the land has been cleared, and the organization has engaged two part-time female laborers from the village to assist in the process of placing composted soil in the bins.

2.0.5 Marine Conservation Awareness and Campaigns.

GERF conducted beach cleanups and awareness campaigns aimed at conserving seashores, provide sanitation and cleaning equipment to support these efforts in various coastal areas of the Dar es Salaam (coco beach, Sinda Island, Bongoyo island, Mbalamwezi, Kidimbwi and Rongoni) and Pwani regions (Bagamoyo and Mdimni), collaborating with different BMU's, Marine Park and NGO's like Nipe Fagio, HUDEF, Sanamare Tanzania, ECCT and sustainable world initiatives. Corresponding on conserving marine ecosystem we conducted WABA (waste audit and brand audit) which is the process to identify the leading producer/manufacturer on the total waste collected that helps on policy change and held the producer/manufacturer accountable.

2.0.6 Field Assessment of Mangrove Destruction in Tundwi Songani.

GERF conducted a field assessment to evaluate the state of mangroves in the Tundwi Songani area of Pemba Mnazi. The assessment involved gathering data, on-site observation, and analysis to assess the extent of mangrove destruction and associated factors.

ASIDE FROM THESE ACTIVITIES, THE ORGANIZATION CORRESPONDINGLY COMPLETED CONSULTATION WORK COMMISSIONED BY THREE ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE CORAL GUARDIAN, SHELL COMPANY AND RAINFOREST CONNECT (RFCX).

2.1 Results and Impacts of these activities to the community

- 95% Increased mangrove cover and biodiversity
- 90% Community participation and engagement
- 5 shores cleanup and 524 Total wastes collected.
- Restored mangrove ecosystems provide habitats for various marine species, protect the coastline from erosion, and contribute to the local economy through sustainable fishing and ecotourism opportunities.
- Improved access to clean drinking water to 300 students and environmental awareness created.
- Students have access to safe drinking water, promoting better hygiene practices and reducing waterborne diseases. Planting fruit trees creates a sustainable source of food, enhances environmental education, and contributes to climate change resilience.
- Comprehensive understanding of deforestation, human-elephant conflict, and environmental degradation
- The survey findings provide a basis for designing targeted interventions to address deforestation, mitigate human-elephant conflict, and raise awareness about sustainable practices among local communities.
- Development of a model farm for tree cultivation
- The farm tree station serves as a learning platform for local farmers, promoting agroforestry practices, enhancing biodiversity, and contributing to sustainable livelihoods through the cultivation of diverse tree species.
- A model for sustainable agroforestry practices and showcases different species of trees.
- Increased awareness and improved cleanliness of seashores
- By conducting beach cleanups and awareness campaigns, the organization promotes responsible waste management, educates the community about marine conservation, and fosters a sense of stewardship towards coastal environments.
- Comprehensive data on the current state of mangroves and the assessment provides a basis for developing targeted conservation strategies, identifying threats to mangroves, and guiding future restoration efforts to ensure the long-term sustainability of mangrove ecosystems.

3.0 Consultation Work Conducted By GERF

3.1 Coral Guardians

3.1.1 Description of the activity

1. Deliver Underwater Assessment reports for Project areas to determine: -
 - a. Damaged coral areas
 - b. Damaged sea grasses
 - c. Damaged sand or reefs
 - d. Evidence of pictures or videos.

- e. Detailed Budget per year per project activities
- 2. Deliver Project Visibility via digital pictures and videos.

3.2 Shell Company

3.2.1 Description of the activity

The Shell Company hire GERC to conduct GIS Verification for Mangroves Sites in Kilwa, Bagamoyo and Mkuranga Districts. These areas selected are predominant for mangroves species and on the other hand they are subjected to human population and activities. The Assessment aimed at the following objectives:

- a. Status and conditions of selected mangroves sites-degree of damages and survivals.
- b. Population sizes surrounding the sites
- c. Species of mangroves found
- d. Threats and challenges along the areas
- e. Possible solutions and projects to be engaged.
- f. Evidence from sites pictures
- g. Sites cover areas from 3,000 -10,000 HA.

From the survey and data collected from the field GERC have collected GIS Data and other valuable data for more than 27,800 Hectares of mangroves, where Kilwa Sites 17,800 ha, Mkuranga 4,300ha and Bagamoyo DC 6,500 ha with possible extensions to 6,000 Hectares in Lindi Delta. Total number of 5,950 ha are subjected to damage from human activities. Number of challenges and threats have been identified and witnessed as being presented in these reports they include charcoal demand from Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam City, Woods and building poles markets in Zanzibar and coastal areas, increase of coconut farming and slat farming, Illegal timber woods and boat making from mangroves poles.

3.3 Rainforest Connect

3.3.1 Description of the activity

GERC was asked by the Rainforest Connect to conduct a baseline study and the main goal of this was to collect additional information that the RFCX science team can better understand and support. Provide information on:

- Study area
- Geographical location
- Habitat
- Conservation importance
- Hypothesis
- Taxonomic groups
- Number of sampling sites
- Ecological insights
- GIS data

**After the collection of data, the RFCX team communicated again and wish to conduct the project in Morogoro region at Uluguru Nature Forest Reserve, the project will focus on installing Threat Detection systems with the BUSuCo Project.*

4.1 GERC Participation in events, meetings and different gatherings to influence policy, communication, networking and share community ecological governance practices.

4.1.1 CARBON CREDIT WORKSHOP

GERC actively participated in a Carbon Credit Workshop hosted at the SAGCOT offices in the Dar es Salaam region. This workshop provided our organization with a valuable platform to acquire knowledge about carbon credits, as well as to establish connections and foster collaborations with fellow stakeholders dedicated to addressing environmental, biodiversity, and ecosystem-related concerns.



Attendees Group photo after the credit carbon workshop

GERC participation was not just a learning opportunity but also a testament to our commitment to taking concrete steps towards a sustainable future. We continue to harness the knowledge and connections gained from such events to drive positive change, protect biodiversity, and promote the health of our ecosystems.

And not only absorbed knowledge about the mechanics of carbon credit programs but also gained insights into their far-reaching impact on the environment and the global effort to combat climate change.

4.1.2 DINNER TO CELEBRATE SWITZERLAND NATION DAY

GERC received an invitation to participate in the Switzerland National Day celebration held at the Swiss Embassy in Dar es Salaam. The event provided an opportunity to commemorate

this special day, acknowledge the accomplishments achieved, and engage in networking with various organizations and institutions.



Dinner to celebrate SWITZERLAND National day at Switzerland Embassy

4.1.3 KCIC -PRODUCTIVE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY (PUSE) WORKSHOP

GERF had the privilege to take part in a workshop organized by KCIC at COSTECH hall, during which we had the opportunity to showcase our work as stakeholders in renewable energy. We shared insights on our contributions to the contemporary world and environmental organizations, while also gaining valuable knowledge about the innovative advancements others have made in improving solar energy products.



Mr. Fortunatus presenting on products of solar energy. Group photo after the workshop with other stakeholders

4.1.4 INDIAN OCEAN 2023 SYMPOSIUM

In June 2023, GERC was invited by Sustainable World Initiative Organization to attend the Indian Ocean Symposium in commemoration of World Ocean Day sponsored by MBRC. The symposium centered around the theme 'Promoting Innovative Solutions to Ocean Pollution.' The event included activities such as presentations on Africa's largest cleanup efforts, panel discussions, and storytelling sessions and it served as a platform for leaders and organizations to collectively address critical issues affecting our oceans



Attending the Indian Ocean Symposium was not only a commemoration of World Ocean Day but also an affirmation of GERC's commitment to marine conservation. It was a valuable occasion for networking, learning from others, and strengthening our partnerships with organizations dedicated to the protection of oceans. GERC remains steadfast in our dedication to combatting environmental challenges, and our participation in events like the Indian Ocean Symposium reinforces our resolve to promote innovative solutions and collaborative efforts in the ongoing battle against ocean pollution.

4.1.5 UNLOCKING CLIMATE FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES WITH KCIC

This was a climate investment summit which was held in Kenya- Nairobi, the aim was to bring together potential investors, conservational organizations and SMEs to work in tackling climate change challenges. Has touched areas of agribusiness, commercial forest, horticulture, energy, livestock manufacturing and circular economy.



5.0 CHALLENGES

- Financial challenges – GERC failed to implement some of the projects due to a scarcity of funds to finance projects.
- Limited innovation and growth- Lack of funds hampers organization ability to invest in research, development and innovation.
- Lack of trust from giant organizations and donors triggered by minor experience in the industry

6.0 PARTNERSHIPS

- GERC has partnered with the Government (local and central) and other like-minded organizations such as HUDEF, NIPE FAGIO, and TCCI Mazingira on different environmental project activities.
- Local Government authorities include Mwidu Village, Dar es Salaam Marine Parks, Morogoro DC.
- TFS and TAWA
- Development Partners including UNCCD, SHELL, Coral Guardians, Rainforest Connect.